

10/4/96
No Mfrs/Products

Products Identified

Excepted by

Firms Notified

Comments Processed.

LOG OF MEETING

Subject: Mattress/Bedding Flammability

Date: September 24, 1996

Place: Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Bethesda, MD

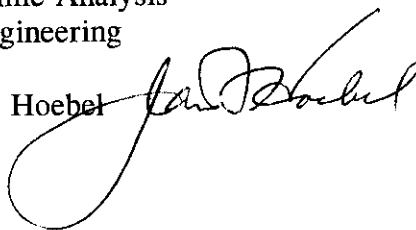
Non-Commission Attendees:

Gordon Damant, Intercity Testing and Consulting
Patricia Martin, Sleep Products Safety Council
Russ Abolt, International Sleep Products Association
George Miller, National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM)
William Mitchell, Maryland State Fire Marshals Office, NASFM
Peter Sparber, Sparber & Associates
Karen Suhr, Sparber & Associates
Amy Fisher, International Mass Retail Association
Alex Cohen, Consumer
Philip Wakelyn, National Cotton Council
John Whelan, Bureau of National Affairs
Sara C. Yerkes, National Fire Protection Association
James V. Ryan, Self
John Krasny, Retired
Maureen Cislo, Product Safety Letter

Commission Attendees:

Chairman Ann Brown
Vice Chairman Thomas H. Moore
Commissioner Mary Gall
Walt Sanders, Chairman Brown's Office
Pamela Weller, Commissioner Moore's Office
Michael Gougisha, Commissioner Moore's Office
Patsy Semple, Commissioner Gall's Office
Dennis Wilson, Commissioner Gall's Office
Patricia Pollitzer, Office of the General Council
Linda Fansler, Laboratory Sciences
Dale Ray, Economic Analysis
Carl Blechschmidt, Planning & Evaluation
Rikki Khanna, Engineering
Marilyn Borsari, Compliance
Patricia Fairall, Compliance
Tony Homan, Economic Analysis
James F. Hoebel, Engineering

Log Entry Source: James F. Hoebel



Summary of Meeting:

The purpose of the meeting was to brief the Commission on mattress flammability technical issues and to describe the plans for an industry-sponsored survey of mattress fires to be conducted by NASFM.

Gordon Damant reviewed the genesis of government involvement in mattress flammability, resulting in the current mandatory standard covering open-flame ignition of mattresses. Corresponding activity in California was described. Fire data were presented to illustrate the current concern with cigarette-ignited and open-flame-ignited fire deaths.

George Miller described the need for further fire incident information, since the National Fire Incident Reporting System is not sufficiently specific to provide needed information. William Mitchell described a planned survey of fires, to be conducted by NASFM, that will focus on the possible role of renovated or older mattresses in such fires. They have prepared a survey instrument, that has been reviewed by Commission staff. Three cities, New York, Chicago, and Seattle, will participate, and they hope to obtain 500 cases to investigate. The project is expected to last for six months. Investigators will soon be trained for the survey.

Russell Abolt discussed the concern of the mattress/bedding industry and their continued interest in safety. Because of this, they formed the Sleep Products Safety Council (SPSC) in 1986. Patricia Martin described the SPSC activities, including the sale of safety hangtags to raise operating funds, information and educational materials development, and annual safety conferences.

There was active questioning of the presenters, including details of the survey and use of the results.